

Introduced \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Hearing \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

## County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2011 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 1

### Bill No. 3-2011

Introduced by: Greg Fox  
Co-sponsored by: Courtney Watson

AN ACT to establish a Veterans' Commission; specifying its composition and duties; requiring a certain annual report; requiring County agencies to cooperate with the Commission; and generally relating to veterans and active duty personnel in Howard County.

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Introduced and read first time \_\_\_\_\_, 2011. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen LeGendre, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen LeGendre, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on \_\_\_\_\_, 2011 and Passed \_\_\_\_, Passed with amendments \_\_\_\_, Failed \_\_\_\_.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen LeGendre, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011 at \_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen LeGendre, Administrator

Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive \_\_\_\_\_, 2011

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Ulman, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment

1 **Section 1. *Be It Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the Howard  
2 *County Code is amended as follows:*

3 *By adding Section 6.342 and Section 6.700 through 6.703, to be under the new subtitle*

4 *“Subtitle 7. Veterans,” to:*

5 *Title 6. County Executive and the Executive Branch.*

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7  
8 **Title 6. County Executive and the Executive Branch.**

9 **Subtitle 3. Boards and Commissions.**

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11 **6.342. VETERANS’ COMMISSION.**

12 THERE IS A VETERANS’ COMMISSION. ITS MEMBERSHIP, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES ARE  
13 SET FORTH IN SUBTITLE 7, "VETERANS," OF THIS TITLE.

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15 **Title 6. County Executive and the Executive Branch.**

16 **SUBTITLE 7. VETERANS.**

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18 **6.700. VETERANS’ COMMISSION**

19 (A) *GENERAL PROVISIONS.* GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE VETERANS’  
20 COMMISSION ARE SET FORTH IN SUBTITLE 3, "BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS," OF THIS TITLE.

21 (B) *ESTABLISHMENT; COMPOSITION.*

22 (1) THERE IS A HOWARD COUNTY VETERANS’ COMMISSION. THE COMMISSION  
23 CONSISTS OF 13 MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
24 PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

25 (2) EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL FORWARD TO THE  
26 COUNTY EXECUTIVE THE NAMES OF TWO INDIVIDUALS WHO THE COUNCIL MEMBER  
27 DESIRES THE EXECUTIVE TO APPOINT AS MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION, EACH OF WHOM  
28 MUST BE A VETERAN, AT LEAST ONE OF WHOM SHALL BE FROM AT LEAST ONE OF THE  
29 FOLLOWING:

30 (I) VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS;

- (II) AMERICAN LEGION;
- (III) AMVETS;
- (IV) DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS;
- (V) MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART;
- (VI) JEWISH WAR VETERANS;
- (VII) VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA;
- (VIII) KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION;
- (IX) UNITED FEMALE VETERANS OF AMERICA OR ANOTHER WOMEN'S  
VETERANS ORGANIZATION;
- (X) CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS;
- (XI) WOMEN'S ARMY AIR CORPS ASSOCIATION;
- (XII) MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA;
- (XIII) A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR;
- (XIV) POLISH LEGION OF AMERICAN VETERANS;
- (XV) MARINE CORPS LEAGUE;
- (XVI) RETIRED ENLISTED ASSOCIATION; OR
- (XVI) THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR BLACK VETERANS
- (3) THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL APPOINT 3 MEMBERS TO THE COMMISSION,  
WHO NEED NOT BE VETERANS, AS FOLLOWS:
- (I) ONE AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE  
COUNTY;
- (II) A COUNTY RESIDENT WHO OWNS OR OPERATES A BUSINESS IN THE  
COUNTY OR IS AN EMPLOYEE OF A BUSINESS IN THE COUNTY, RECOMMENDED BY  
THE HOWARD COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; AND
- (III) A FACULTY OR STAFF MEMBER OF HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE,  
RECOMMENDED BY HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE.
- (C) *QUALIFICATIONS.* MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION WHO ARE VETERANS SHALL HAVE  
SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES, OTHER THAN FOR  
TRAINING, AND SHALL HAVE BEEN DISCHARGED OR RELEASED UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS.
- (D) *EXECUTIVE SECRETARY.* THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL DESIGNATE A COUNTY

1 EMPLOYEE TO SERVE AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSION AND ATTEND ALL MEETINGS.

2 (E) *MEETINGS.* THE COMMISSION SHALL MEET AT LEAST QUARTERLY.

3  
4 **6.701. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES OF VETERANS' COMMISSION.**

5 (A) *IN GENERAL* THE HOWARD COUNTY VETERANS' COMMISSION MAY:

6 (1) ESTABLISH A FORUM EXCLUSIVELY RELATING TO THE ISSUES OF HOWARD  
7 COUNTY RESIDENTS WHO SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES;

8 (2) MAINTAIN COMMUNICATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES,  
9 BUSINESSES, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND VETERANS IN THE COUNTY, WITH THE  
10 INTENT THAT VETERANS' ISSUES WILL BE ADDRESSED IN THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND  
11 EFFICIENT MANNER;

12 (3) PROVIDE ASSISTANCE, GUIDANCE, AND INFORMATION TO GOVERNMENT  
13 AGENCIES, BUSINESSES, AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO ENSURE ADEQUATE  
14 CONSIDERATION OF VETERANS AND THEIR HISTORY OF SERVICE IN EDUCATION,  
15 EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS;

16 (4) RESEARCH, ASSEMBLE, ANALYZE, AND DISSEMINATE INFORMATION AND  
17 EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS RELATING TO ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS THAT WILL ASSIST IN  
18 MEETING THE NEEDS OF VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES;

19 (5) INSTITUTE AND CONDUCT EDUCATIONAL AND OTHER PROGRAMS, MEETINGS,  
20 AND CONFERENCES TO PROMOTE THE RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR VETERANS;

21 (6) ADVISE THE EXECUTIVE AND THE COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF PROGRAMS  
22 AND SERVICES IN THE STATE AND COUNTY RELATED TO THE NEEDS OF VETERANS AND  
23 THEIR FAMILIES; AND

24 (7) ASSIST IN PLANNING APPROPRIATE PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE  
25 CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY VETERANS AND ASSIST IN PLANNING COMMEMORATION  
26 ACTIVITIES RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY VETERANS.

27 (B) *ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL.* AS THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE WHEN  
28 CARRYING OUT ITS DUTIES UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSION SHALL  
29 ALSO ENCOMPASS ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL.

1   **6.702. ANNUAL REPORT.**

2           ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 31 OF EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL  
3   REPORT TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL AND THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE ON ITS ACTIVITIES DURING THE  
4   PREVIOUS YEAR. THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS, IF ANY, FOR CHANGES OR  
5   IMPROVEMENTS TO THE COMMISSION.  
6

7   **6.703. COOPERATION.**

8           SUBJECT TO PUBLIC RECORDS LAWS, EACH COUNTY AGENCY SHALL COOPERATE FULLY  
9   WITH THE HOWARD COUNTY VETERANS' COMMISSION.  
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11   *Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that,*  
12   *to establish the stagger of terms required by § 6.300 of the Howard County Code, of the initial*  
13   *appointees to the Commission, 2 appointees shall have a term of 1 year, 2 appointees shall have*  
14   *a term of 2 years, 3 appointees shall have a term of 3 years, 3 appointees shall have a term of 4*  
15   *years, and 3 appointees shall have a term of 5 years, as provided in the Resolutions that confirm*  
16   *the appointments.*  
17

18   *Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that*  
19   *this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*  
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